



Department of Justice

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Southern District of Alabama

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CRACK COCAINE DEALER SENTENCED TO 262 MONTHS CONFINEMENT

MOBILE, AL-- A crack cocaine dealer was brought to justice, United States Attorney Deborah J. Rhodes of the Southern District of Alabama announced.

Jacob Tyrone Blackston was sentenced on 9/12/06 by Judge Kristi Dubose to 262 months confinement for distribution of crack cocaine and being a felon in possession of a firearm. The evidence at sentencing disclosed that Blackston operated a crack cocaine business in a drug and crime invested area of Mobile County near the intersection of Moffett Road and Wilson Road known as the "Hill." Evidence at the sentencing revealed that the crack cocaine dealers often perched on a high elevation in the area in which they could observe customers and law enforcement entering the area from Moffett Road. Evidence at the sentencing also revealed that crack cocaine buyers would ride through the area on almost a non-stop basis on a weekend night and be serviced by the defendant and his associates and various runners working for the defendant and his associates. The Mobile County Sheriff's Office had received numerous complaints from citizens who, when attempting to drive through the area, were surrounded by drug dealers trying to sell them crack cocaine.

Evidence at sentencing also disclosed that the drug dealers on the Hill would employ prostitutes as young as 15 years old as an additional aspect of their drug business. The felon in possession charge against Blackston stemmed from an incident in which Blackston shot two individuals after tracking them down after they allegedly stole some money from his car. The case was jointly investigate by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Mobile County Sheriff's Office, Narcotics Squad. The investigation is ongoing. The defendant's brother, Jeffery Bradley Blackston, has been indicted by the federal grand jury and is currently a fugitive from justice. Anyone with information regarding the current whereabouts of Jeffery Bradley Blackston should contact the Mobile County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Section at (251) 574 - 3784.

United States Attorney Deborah J. Rhodes commended the investigative efforts of the FBI and the Mobile County Sheriff's Office and added that this sentence should serve as fair warning to drug dealers that they will be investigated and aggressively prosecuted.

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